

amendment. I believe it is clear that one consequence of Senate Joint Resolution 1 would be the Medicare program, which provides health services to 38 million senior citizens, will be cut in excess of what is required to protect seniors and beyond the dictates of good health policy.

I am committed to charting a positive course for our Nation in the 21st century, and I believe that we are moving in the right direction. Some of us have worked very hard in the recent years to do the job of digging out from the exploding deficits of the 1980's, by reducing the deficit, and changing the priorities of the Federal budget in order to cut waste and increase investment in America's future. I have cast many votes in recent years for actual cuts, for detailed changes in policy, and for specific budget plans. These are the kinds of real votes that have cut the deficit.

By working out a balance between what must be done to invest in our people, and using their hard-earned tax dollars more wisely, we have a course that is far less reckless and dangerous than strapping this amendment onto the U.S. Constitution. I truly believe we can achieve the real goal of a balanced budget amendment—fiscal responsibility—if we are brave enough to tackle the real challenges that confront us. For the sake of real fiscal responsibility and the sake of West Virginia's future, I cast my vote against the constitutional amendment to balance the budget.

MR. COKER ADDS TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, last fall, I had the opportunity to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony commemorating renovations to the Queen Manor low-income senior citizen complex in Dover, DE. One of the highlights of the ceremony was a poem written and read by Mr. James B. Coker that reminds us that drug abuse is not the answer.

Mr. President, I ask that the text of the poem be printed in the RECORD.

The poem follows:

The high I need doesn't come in a bottle
Or in an auto's throttle
Just give me some hugs
Not someone's drugs

Mr. BIDEN. Last week, President Clinton announced a new addition to our strategy in the fight against drug abuse by young people in America. I applaud the President's effort to focus on teen drug abuse, and believe that it is a good response to a disturbing trend that we cannot ignore. We must harness a moral condemnation of drug use by all segments of our population.

I commend Mr. Coker for making a difference, and am grateful for his contribution in the fight against drug abuse.●

DIVERSIFIED

INTERGENERATIONAL CARE, INC.

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Diversified Inter-

generational Care, Inc., in recognition of the grand opening of their facility at the West Haven Medical Center on March 21, 1997. This facility, which is the first of its kind in the Nation, will provide child care services and care for the mentally ill and elderly.

The sole principals of the company, Scott L. Shafer and Bernard L. Ginsberg, were able to make this facility a reality through a lease they were awarded by the Department of Veterans Affairs. They were selected for the Department's enhanced-use lease through a highly competitive process involving companies nationwide.

Diversified Intergenerational Care, Inc. considers it an honor to work with the Department of Veterans Affairs. They intend to continue their partnership by developing other intergenerational facilities. Their goal is to satisfy the unmet need for care for children, the elderly, and the mentally ill at VA medical centers across the country.

I congratulate Diversified Intergenerational Care, Inc. and the Department of Veterans Affairs for creating this very worthwhile facility, and thank them for working to make these vital services available to those in need.●

ANOTHER MILESTONE FOR THE NPT

● Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I rise to remind my fellow colleagues that today marks the 27th anniversary of the entering into force of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, or NPT. All too often, the contributions to U.S. security made by multilateral arrangements like the NPT go unrecognized.

I will speak today of a treaty that—with the accession by Oman last January—now has 185 members. That is more than any international security treaty in history. Though it is true that the NPT has not eradicated the global threat of nuclear weapons proliferation—and that it faces some daunting challenges ahead—the treaty has undoubtedly served U.S. interests well and deserves the respect and support of all Members of Congress and indeed all Americans.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks a list supplied by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency of all current signatories and parties to the NPT. The only major nonmembers are India, Pakistan, Israel, Brazil, and Cuba.

The NPT was negotiated throughout the 1960's and was signed by Secretary of State Dean Rusk on July 1, 1968. The treaty commits the United States, Britain, France, Russia, and China—the treaty's so-called nuclear-weapon states, defined as countries that detonated a nuclear explosive device before January 1, 1967—not to transfer, directly or indirectly, any nuclear explosive device or control over such a de-

vice to any other country, and “not in any way to assist, encourage, or induce” any non-nuclear-weapon state to acquire such a device. (Article I.)

As for the latter states, the treaty obligates them to forswear the bomb and to agree to full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] over all of their nuclear materials. (Articles II and III.)

The treaty also obligates all of its parties to pursue negotiations toward nuclear disarmament, indeed to pursue the eventual goal of a “treaty on general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control.” (Article VI.)

These respective obligations form the heart of the security obligations of members of the NPT. Though the treaty also encourages peaceful uses of atomic energy (Article IV), this encouragement obviously does not extend to help in making bombs or the fissile materials for use in such bombs. The “NP” in “NPT” continues to stand for nonproliferation—not “Nuclear Proliferation” or “Nuclear Profiteering.”

NEW CHALLENGES AHEAD

Now, many published critiques have already established that the NPT is far from a perfect treaty. Typically these include observations about the limits of safeguards, the treaty's lack of complete universality, the lack of mandatory sanctions for violations, the inclusion of anachronistic language about “peaceful nuclear explosions,” the lack of an explicit ban on nonnuclear-weapon states helping other nonnuclear-weapon states to acquire the bomb, and allegations about the treaty's discriminatory division of the world into nuclear have's and have not's.

Though many of these specific criticisms are well-founded, I would like to identify some broader challenges that could someday jeopardize not just this treaty, but the very existence of nonproliferation as a basic norm of the international community.

Ironically, the first major challenge may well come from the disarmers. Though the United States and Russia have recently made substantial reductions in their strategic arsenals, it is possible that, someday, dozens of non-nuclear-weapon states may reconsider their membership or abandon the treaty due to what they may believe is inadequate progress toward the goal of total nuclear disarmament. What a hypocritical step that would be: it would amount not just to a form of extortion, but one based on some rather peculiar logic—“either you disarm, right now, in the interests of world peace, or we will arm.” How this will serve the interests of either peace or nonproliferation is beyond me.

I agree that America and all the other nuclear-weapon states should reaffirm their obligation under the NPT to negotiate in good faith toward the ultimate goal of nuclear disarmament. But I do not read the NPT itself as